

Response to Office Action
May 6, 2004
Ser. No.: 09/756,597
Attorney Ref. No.: 130.01

Amendments to the Claims (Made without prejudice)

1. (currently amended) A lighter fluid composition, ~~consisting of~~ comprising:
 - (a) between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 90 percent weight of terpene;
 - (b) between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 98.5 percent weight of alcohol;
 - (c) between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 60 percent weight of water;
 - (d) between approximately 0.05 percent weight and approximately 10 percent weight of surfactant; and
 - (e) between approximately 0.1 percent weight and approximately 10 percent weight of a thickening agent.
2. (original) The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said terpene is selected from d-limonene and cold press orange oil.
3. (original) The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said alcohol is selected from methanol and ethanol.
4. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said surfactant ~~consists of~~ comprises a non-ionic surfactant.
5. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said thickening agent ~~consists of~~ comprises a cross-linked polyacrylic acid.
6. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said terpene ~~consists of~~ comprises between approximately 10 percent weight and approximately 45 percent weight of said

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composition.

7. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said alcohol consists of ~~comprises~~ between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 70 percent weight of said composition.
8. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said water consists of ~~comprises~~ between approximately 10 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of said composition.
9. (original) The lighter fluid composition of claim 1, wherein said alcohol is replaced at least partially with aliphatic hydrocarbon.
10. (currently amended) A lighter fluid composition, consisting of ~~comprising~~:
(a) between approximately 10 percent weight and approximately 45 percent weight of terpene;
(b) between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 70 percent weight of short chain alcohol;
(c) between approximately 10 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of water;
(d) between approximately 0.05 percent weight and approximately 5 percent weight of surfactant; and
(e) between approximately 1 percent weight and approximately 8 percent weight of a thickening agent.
11. (original) The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said terpene is selected from d-limonene and cold pressed orange oil.

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12. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said short chain alcohol consists of ~~comprises~~ methanol.
13. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said surfactant consists of ~~comprises~~ a non-ionic surfactant.
14. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said thickening agent consists of ~~comprises~~ a cross-linked polyacrylic acid.
15. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said terpene consists of ~~comprises~~ between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 35 percent weight of said composition.
16. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 11, wherein said short chain alcohol consists of ~~comprises~~ between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 50 percent weight of said composition.
17. (currently amended) The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said water consists of ~~comprises~~ between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 30 percent weight of said composition.
18. (original) The lighter fluid composition of claim 10, wherein said short chain alcohol is replaced at least partially with aliphatic hydrocarbon.
19. (currently amended) A barbecue lighter fluid composition, consisting of ~~comprising~~:

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- (a) between approximately 25 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of citrus-derived terpene;
- (b) between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 50 percent weight of short chain alcohol;
- (c) between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 30 percent weight of water;
- (d) between approximately 0.4 percent weight and approximately 2 percent weight of surfactant; and
- (e) between approximately 3 percent weight and approximately 6 percent weight of a pH adjustable thickening agent.

20. (currently amended) The barbecue lighter fluid composition of claim 19, wherein:
- (a) said terpene ~~consists of~~ ~~comprises~~ orange oil, said orange oil ~~consisting of~~ ~~comprises~~ between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of said composition; and
 - (b) said short chain alcohol ~~consists of~~ ~~comprises~~ methanol, said methanol ~~consisting of~~ ~~comprises~~ between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of said composition.

- 21.(currently amended) A method for igniting a barbecue in preparation for cooking food thereon, comprising:
- (a) providing a lighter fluid ~~consisting of~~ ~~comprising~~ between approximately 25 percent weight and approximately 40 percent weight of terpene, between approximately 30 percent weight and approximately 50 percent weight of short chain alcohol, between approximately 20 percent weight and approximately 30

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percent weight of water, between approximately 0.4 percent weight and approximately 2 percent weight of surfactant, and between approximately 3 percent weight and approximately 6 percent weight of a thickening agent;
(b) agitating said lighter fluid to form an emulsion;
(c) applying said lighter fluid to a bed of charcoals associated with said barbecue;
(d) igniting said lighter fluid; and
(e) allowing said lighter fluid to undergo substantially complete combustion.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein said providing said lighter fluid consists of comprises:

- (a) mixing said terpene, said short chain alcohol, and said surfactant together;
- (b) mixing said water and said thickening agent together;
- (c) adding said mixed said water and said thickening agent to said mixed said terpene, said short chain alcohol and said surfactant to form a lighter fluid mix; and
- (d) pH adjusting said lighter fluid mix.

23. (currently amended): A lighter fluid composition, consisting of comprising:

- (a) between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 90 percent weight of terpene;
- (b) between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 98.5 percent weight of alcohol;
- (c) between approximately 0.5 percent weight and approximately 60 percent weight of water;
- (d) between approximately 0.05 percent weight and approximately 10 percent weight of surfactant; and

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(e) between approximately 0.1 percent weight and approximately 10 percent weight of a polymeric gel thickening agent, ~~without the addition of any other thickening agent.~~

24. (previously added) The lighter fluid composition according to claim 23, wherein said terpene is selected from d-limonene and cold press orange oil.
25. (previously added) The lighter fluid composition according to claim 24, wherein said alcohol is selected from methanol and ethanol.

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Conclusion

As amended, the claims are now clearly allowable, and a prompt Notice of Allowance is thus requested.

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